

Cancer Research Training Award Fellowship in Tobacco Cessation Research

September 2023

ABOUT THE BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

The National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Behavioral Research Program (BRP), within the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS), seeks a Cancer Research Training Award (CRTA) post-doctoral fellow to serve in the Tobacco Control Research Branch (TCRB). Learn more about the [BRP mission](#) and [TCRB and its key initiatives](#).

This full-time fellowship provides outstanding opportunities for training and professional development that supports program activities and contributes to the scientific literature in tobacco control. CRTA fellows interact and collaborate with researchers in public health, behavioral medicine, and cancer prevention at NCI, across the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and in the broader research community.

Fellows with expertise in tobacco control research (particularly in tobacco cessation, surveillance, and other research topics of interest to the branch) and behavioral science are especially encouraged to apply. See [TCRB's initiatives](#) for additional information.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The CRTA fellow will function as part of a multidisciplinary team of federal staff, contractors, and external scientists who plan and implement tobacco control research activities. Areas of focus will include clinical trials of smoking cessation in the setting of lung cancer screening, cessation treatment in cancer centers, and federal government-wide efforts to promote equitable access to cessation services for all communities. Day-to-day activities may include contributing to manuscripts for peer-reviewed journal publications, conducting literature reviews or environmental scans, performing data analyses, writing scientific content for federal and other audiences, developing consumer-focused cessation content for online or social media platforms or promotion, participating in team meetings, and attending seminars or other training opportunities. The fellow is encouraged to initiate projects that align with TCRB's goals. With approval, opportunities may exist for fellows to mentor more junior scientists and to attend national scientific conferences to learn and/or present findings. The fellow is also encouraged to explore project opportunities in other branches of BRP.

QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates with a Ph.D. or equivalent degree (or highly qualified Ph.D. candidates)—from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds, including psychology, behavioral medicine, implementation science, public health, geography, environmental science, health services research, computational modeling, epidemiology, health policy, health communication, medicine, and biostatistics—are encouraged to apply. Candidates should have a strong interest in interdisciplinary behavioral and social science research in cancer prevention and control, particularly in behavioral interventions and clinical trials, multilevel and policy research, implementation and health sciences research, and/or cross-disciplinary areas of behavioral science.

Candidates must demonstrate strong organizational, planning, writing, and project management skills. Effective interpersonal skills and an openness to working in emerging areas are required as TCRB activities involve novel interdisciplinary, collaborative, and team-based efforts. The successful applicant must be a self-starter who is comfortable taking initiative and who can play a major role in completing several projects. Other qualifications include

- superior academic achievement, typically a cumulative 3.5 GPA or higher,
- experience conducting research or serving as a research assistant on a scientific project,
- data management and/or analytical skills (proficiency with statistical software packages like SAS), and
- experience with questionnaire design/development preferred, but not required.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for this position, the following materials must be submitted:

1. Cover letter describing your interest in the fellowship, your professional development and career goals, how this fellowship will help you achieve them, and how your skills and interests will contribute to the TCRB mission. Include your experience in research and/or data analysis (limited to 2 pages)
2. Resume or curriculum vitae
3. Two signed letters of reference on official letterhead or sent from your reference's email (can be submitted separately)

Application materials may be submitted via email to ncidccpsbrpadvances@mail.nih.gov with the subject line "TCRB Cessation Research 2023." For questions about the position, contact [Dr. Stephanie Land](#).

Highly ranked candidates will be asked to submit proof of U.S. citizenship (photocopy of a birth certificate or passport), or resident alien status (Green Card) and official transcripts for the highest degree conferred. If currently enrolled in school, proof of good academic standing must be sent on official letterhead and signed by a graduate studies program director, advisor, or equivalent.

DCCPS is deeply committed to building a diverse health sciences workforce that maintains, fosters, and promotes an equitable, inclusive, accessible, and nurturing work environment. Diverse teams foster scientific innovation, improve the quality of research, contribute their lived experiences to a robust learning environment, advance the likelihood that underserved, or health disparity populations participate and benefit from health research, and enhance public trust.

APPLICATION DEADLINE AND START DATE

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The preferred start date is Fall/Winter 2023–2024, depending on the graduation date (negotiable).

STIPEND AND BENEFITS

This position is a 1-year, full-time fellowship with a possibility for renewal. Stipends for CRTA fellows are adjusted yearly and are commensurate with academic achievement and relevant experience. View the [stipend range](#) for the initial appointment of CRTA fellows.

Benefits include health insurance at no cost and a range of career development and social activities. The office is located in Rockville, Maryland, and is easily accessible by car or public transportation from surrounding locations in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC.

To learn more about BRP staff, please see our [online staff directory](#). You are encouraged to contact current and past fellows, mentors, and other staff members to learn more about the BRP fellow experience.